

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 063250  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:DEZWEIFEL:SEB

APPROVED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES

NEA/EGY:DONEWBERRY

L:JMICHEL

EUR:BMCKINLEY

PM:RERICSON

S/S-O:RCASTRODALE

-----065680 110321Z /66

O 110237Z MAR 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 063250

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, EG, US, IT

SUBJECT: MIG MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

REF: A)STATE 35740; B) ROME 3739 (NOTAL); C) CAIRO 7405  
(NOTAL); D) ROME 4050 (NOTAL)

1. VADER OF LOCKHEED CALLED DEPARTMENT MARCH 9 TO STATE THAT AERITALIA IS PRESSING LOCKHEED TO WORK WITH ITALIANS TO REOPEN "FROZEN" SITUATION CONCERNING PROPOSAL FOR WORK ON MIG-21 AIRFRAMES. ACCORDING TO VADER, AS OF FEBRUARY 22 AERITALIA UNDERSTANDING WAS THAT GOE DECISION STILL IN ABEYANCE.

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2. WAR MINISTER GAMASY HAS INFORMED US THAT CONTRACTS NOW HAVE BEEN SIGNED WITH BOTH ROLLS ROYCE AND HAWKER-SIDDELEY (REF C). IT IS CLEARLY EGYPTIAN RESPONSIBILITY TO NOTIFY ALL BIDDERS RE FINAL RESOLUTION. APPARENTLY THIS HAS NOT BEEN DONE, A FACT WHICH CONTRIBUTES TO CONTINUING EFFORTS BY ITALIANS AND AMERICAN FIRMS.

3. ACCORDINGLY, AT AMBASSADOR EILTS' DISCRETION, SUGGEST EMBASSY CAIRO URGE GOE AUTHORITIES TO INFORM AMERICAN AND ITALIAN BIDDERS THAT CONTRACTS WITH BRITISH FIRMS HAVE BEEN SIGNED.

4. NEVERTHELESS, USG FEELS SOME RESPONSIBILITY SINCE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND COMPANIES ACTED IN FIRST INSTANCE IN RESPONSE TO OUR REQUESTS. THEREFORE, EMBASSY ROME SHOULD, UNLESS IT PERCEIVES OBJECTIONS, INFORM ITALIANS (LA ROCCA) OF THE ABOVE, ADDING USG IS CONFIDENT THAT GOE GAVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY ALFA ROMEO, AERITALIA, AND AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS BEFORE REACHING DECISION TO ACCEPT COUNTERPROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY BRITISH FIRMS. BASED ON OUR CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH GOE, WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT EGYPTIAN DECISION IS FIRM AND, THEREFORE, USG DOES NOT PLAN TO PRESS GOE FOR REVERSAL OF THAT DECISION. IN PASSING MESSAGE, YOU ONCE AGAIN SHOULD STATE USG RECOGNITION OF FACT THAT COMPANIES' PROPOSALS WERE RESPONSIVE TO GOE REQUEST, A FACT WHICH USG APPRECIATES.  
VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014